UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address* --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *08 December 2008*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-135* is/are pending in the application.

     4a) Of the above claim(s) *1-90* is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *91-135* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

     Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

     Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

     a)☐ All   b)☐ Some *   c)☐ None of:

        1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

        2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

        3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

     * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____.

Response to Amendment

This action is responsive to Applicant's amendment filed on December 8, 2008. New

claims 126-135 are added hence claims 91-135 are now pending.

To expedite the process of examination Examiner requests that all future correspondences in
regard to overcoming prior art rejections or other issues (e.g. amendments, 35 U.S.C. 112,
objections and the like) set forth by the Examiner that Applicants provide and link to the most
specific page and line numbers of the disclosure where the best support is found (see 35 U.S.C.
132).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making
> and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it
> pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode
> contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 91, 102, 113, 124 and 125 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as

failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contain subject matter which

was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it

pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. The feature

of "detecting user interactions with the schema display region and the first and second axis

shelves to associate the first and second dimension levels with either the first axis shelf or the

second axis shelf" was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in

the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the

invention. The lack of enablement is especially directed to how the interaction is detected and

what result is generated.

As to claims 92-101, 103-112, 114-123, and 126-135 depend from claims 91, 102, 113,

respectively, and are thus rejected on the merits.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the

basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 91-135 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Barg et al

(U.S. Patent No. 6,707,454).

Regarding claim 91, Barg discloses a computer implemented method comprising:

displaying a graphical user interface (GUI) for visualizing a dataset having a hierarchical

dimension, wherein the hierarchical dimension includes a first dimension level and a second

dimension level, the GUI including a metadata display region and a data visualization region,

wherein (fig. 2, items 110 and 122, col. 6, lines 18-67, specifically *Dimensional view and*

Multiscape view):

the schema display region includes at least schema about the first dimension level and the

second dimensions level (figs. 1 and 2, and col. 6, lines 18-35), and

the data visualization region includes a first axis shelf, a second axis shelf, and a visual

table (fig. 2, items 110 and 122, col. 6, lines 18-67, specifically *Dimensional view and*

Multiscape view);

detecting user interactions with the schema display region and the first and second axis shelves to associate the first and second dimension levels with either the first axis shelf or the second axis shelf, respectively (fig. 2, col. 5, lines 52-62); and

in response to the user interactions, forming in the visual table a plurality of panes (fig. 2, items 110, 112 and 122), each pane having a first axis corresponding to the dimension level associated with the first axis shelf and a second axis corresponding to the dimension level associated with the second axis (fig. 2, items 110 and 122, col. 8, lines 49-54). In addition, Barg discloses changing a variable such as the dimension (col. 13, lines 12-17), select measures such as profits (col. 13, lines 18-23), arrange rows and columns (col. 13, lines 39-44), add, subtract, exclude and restore portions of displayed regions and populating data (figs. 1 and 2 and col. 13, lines 49-63), and all the options listed on figures 6 and 7 including focusing in on detailed data.

Regarding claim 92, Barg teaches the schema display region is generated by:

identifying one or more dimensions from the dataset;

generating an ordered list of dimension levels for at least one of the identified dimensions (figs. 1 and 2, formulating views of data stored in cells using dimensions); and

displaying the dimensions and their associated ordered lists of dimension levels in the schema display region (figs. 1 and 2, formulating views of data stored in cells using dimensions, for details see col. 1, lines 60 to col. 2, line 67).

Regarding claim 93, Barg teaches:

identifying one or more measures from the dataset;

generating an ordered list of the identified measures (figs. 1 and 2, organizing

information); and

displaying the ordered list of measures in the schema display region (figs. 1 and 2,

organizing information along a sequence of categories, for details see col. 1, lines 60 to col. 2,

line 67).

Regarding claim 94, Barg teaches displaying an icon (fig. 2, item 110, bar chart) for the

first dimension level in the metadata display region;

detecting a user selection of the icon in the schema display region;

detecting a user selection of the first axis shelf in the data visualization region; and

moving a copy of the icon (bar chart) from the schema display region into the first axis

shelf in the data visualization region (fig. 2, items 110 and 122, col. 6, lines 18-67, specifically

Dimensional view and Multiscape view):

Regarding claim 95, Barg teaches populating each pane in the visual table with at least a

subset of the dataset in accordance with the arrangement of the first and second axis (figs. 2, 6

and 7, items 110, 122, 501, 502, 512, 514, 517 and 518, col. 6, lines 4-11 and 18-67 and relevant

text).

Regarding claim 96, Barg teaches wherein populating the visual plot further includes:

dividing the subset of the dataset into a plurality sub-subsets, respectively (figs. 2 and 6

and 7, col. 6, lines 4-12, col. 13, lines 28-34, col. 14, lines 33-47);

generating a mark in a respective pane for each data record associated with the pane, wherein the mark is positioned along the first axis of the pane in accordance with the corresponding data value associated with the first dimensions level and the mark is positioned along the first axis of the pane in accordance with the corresponding data value associated with the second dimension level (fig. 2, items 110, 112 and 122 and related text).

Regarding claims 97, Barg teaches wherein the populating the visual table further includes:

constructing a visual specification, wherein the visual specification defines a mapping from the dataset to each pane in the visual table (figs. 2 and 6, items 110, 112, 122 and 501); and

retrieving data records from the dataset in accordance with the visual specification (fig. 6, item 504, col. 13, lines 18-23).

Regarding claim 98, Barg teaches the first axis is in horizontal direction and the second axis is in the vertical direction (fig. 2, *product, product type and state*).

Regarding claim 99, Barg teaches the hierarchical dimension is time and the first level is higher than the second level in the natural hierarchy of time (figs. 1 and 2 and col. 2, lines 15-24).

Regarding claim 100, Barg teaches the hierarchical dimension is location and the first level is higher than the second level in the natural hierarchy of location (fig. 2, State, Region, hierarchy, and col. 2, lines 15-24).

Regarding claim 101, Barg teaches the hierarchical dimension is product and the first level is higher than the second level in the natural hierarchy of product (fig. 2, Product Tea, hierarchy and col. 2, lines 15-24).

Regarding claim 126, Barg teaches the dataset is a hierarchical multidimensional OLAP data cube (fig. 2, *cube* and related text).

Regarding claim 127, Barg teaches three dimension levels having a natural order, and wherein first axis of each pane corresponds to the first and third dimension levels and second axis of each pane corresponds to the second dimension level (figs. 2, 6 and 7, cube and col. 8, lines 47-54).

With regard to claims 102-125 and 128-135, they comprise substantially the same limitations as rejected claims 91-101, 126 and 127, and are therefore rejected on the same merits.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed December 8, 2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The arguments and responses are listed below.

Applicant argues that the specification is enabling.

Examiner disagrees. The feature of "detecting user interactions with the schema display region and the first and second axis shelves to associate the first and second dimension levels with either the first axis shelf or the second axis shelf" was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. The lack of enablement is especially directed to how the interaction is detected and what result is generated.

Applicant argues that Barg does not teach two levels of the same hierarchy dimension can appear at different axes (x and y) of the same visual plot with different orientations.

Examiner disagrees. In response to applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., x and y axis) are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

Barg teaches all the claimed limitations including manipulating axis and displaying different views (see figs. 2, 6, 7, abstract and col. 16, lines 23-36). For detailed information please refer to the rejection above. In addition Barg discloses altering the associating between dimensions and each axis.

No other issues were raised.

With respect to all the pending claims 91-135, Examiner respectfully traverses Applicants assertion based on the discussion and rejection cited above.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marc R. Filipczyk whose telephone number is (571) 272-4019. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri, 8:30am-5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mohammad Ali can be reached on 571-272-4105. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would

like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated

information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

MF
February 4, 2009
/Marc R Filipczyk/
Examiner, Art Unit 2169

/Mohammad Ali/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2169